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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/730,056	12/09/2003	Tomohiro Hamada	008312-0307177	2980
909	7590	10/12/2005	EXAMINER	
PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN, LLP			CHANG, YEAN HSI	
P.O. BOX 10500			ART UNIT	
MCLEAN, VA 22102			PAPER NUMBER	
			2835	

DATE MAILED: 10/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/730,056	HAMADA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Yean-Hsi Chang	2835	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 8-10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/9/03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 6 is objected to because of the following informalities: The "first a hole" on line 3 should be "a first hole" in order to make sense. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sheridan et al. (US 6,157,312).

Sheridan teaches an electronic apparatus (10, fig. 1A) comprising: a first case (20) including a wall (not labeled) which has a plurality of holes (right halves of 82 and 53 in fig. 2), a second case (18) coupled to the first case (shown in fig. 2) for forming a housing (12), and having a wall (not labeled) which has a plurality of holes (left halves of 82 and 53), and a speaker (60) provided in the housing, the speaker facing to the holes of the first and second case (shown in fig. 1A) (claims 1 and 6); wherein the speaker is arranged, straddling the first case and the second case (shown in fig. 1A) (claim 2);

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wherein the sound holes made in the first case differ in size from the sound holes made in the second case (both halves of opening 82 are different in size as shown in fig. 7) (claim 3); and wherein the first case is a lower case having a mount surface (considering left in fig. 2 being upper), the second case is an upper case covering the first case from above, and the sound holes made in the first case are larger than the sound holes made in the second case (shown in fig. 7) (claim 4).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 5 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sheridan et al. in view of Jo (US 6,222,725 B1).

Sheridan discloses the claimed invention except indicating the speaker having a support member fastened to the housing by an elastic member.

Jo teaches an electronic apparatus (10, fig. 1) comprising a speaker (72, fig. 3) having a support member (case of 72, not labeled) fastened to a housing (70) by a elastic member (78, as shown in fig. 5).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Sheridan with the speaker taught by Jo for a method of supporting the speaker to the housing.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 8-10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The best prior art of record, Sheridan et al. (US 6,157,312), and Jo (US 6,222,725 B1), taken alone or in combination, fails to teach or fairly suggest an electronic apparatus comprising a speaker being supported to a housing having a first case and a second case coupled to the first case, by an elastic support member, wherein the elastic member locates between the speaker and an inner surface of the first case, and between the speaker and an inner surface of the second case as set forth in claim 8. Claims 9-10 are dependent claims from claim 8.

Correspondence

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yean-Hsi Chang whose telephone number is (571) 272-

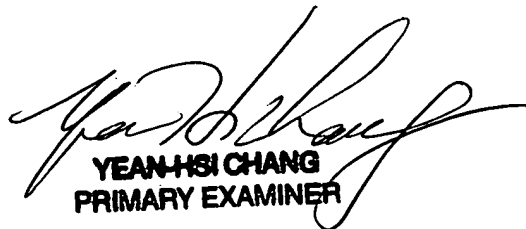
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2038. The examiner can normally be reached on 07:30 - 16:00, Monday through Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Art Unit phone number is (571) 272-2800, ext. 35. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-8558.

Yean-Hsi Chang
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2835
October 11, 2005



YEAN-HSI CHANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER